

# Bandits kill 7 police officers, set patrol vehicle ablaze in Zamfara

**SEVEN** police personnel were killed by suspected bandits along the Tofa-Magami Road in the Gusau Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

A spokesperson of Governor Bello Matawalle, confirmed the incident but did not provide details.

He said the governor had cancelled his schedules in mourning of the fallen police officers.

Special Assistant to Governor Bello Matawalle on new media, Ibrahim Zauma, who confirmed the incident on his official Facebook page, said "the governor had cancelled his scheduled political meeting in commiseration of the death of our gallant MO-POL officers at Kurar Mota frontline base.

"The governor is shocked over the bandits' incursion which claimed the lives of the police officers. May the souls of those who fell rest in peace."

A resident of Dangulbi, who also spoke about the

killings, but could not confirm how many people died, said: "I heard the gunshots coming from the axis I was heading to, and when some people standing by the roadside asked me to stop, I thought they were among the bandits."

An indigene of the area, Salisu Sani, said the incident

occurred about 6pm, on Monday, when the police personnel went to the area on patrol mission.

"The bandits ambushed the police personnel, killed seven of them, and set their operational vehicle ablaze. I saw their dead bodies being evacuated to Gusau," he Sani.

The spokesperson of the

ible statements served on the defence counsel.

Yarima Bakura Specialist Hospital, Gusau, Awwal Ruwan-doruwa, confirmed that seven dead bodies of the slain police operatives were brought to the hospital.

However, spokesperson of the state police command, SP Mohammed Shehu, didn't respond to the calls to his phone at the time of filing the report.

ments contained in the proof of evidence served on them were all illegible and that the audio interviews of the defendants were also inaudible.

They stated that the defendants' counsel had a right to clearer statements and audible video interviews, as it would enable them to prepare their defence adequately.

Justice Yetunde Adesanya, in her ruling, directed the Lagos State Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) to provide clearer statements and audible copies of the interviews

## Police informant's killing: IGP begins prosecution of suspects

By Christopher Oji

**THE** Inspector General of the Nigeria Police Force, Usman Baba Alkali, has commenced the prosecution of five suspects in the gruesome killing of a 40-year-old man in the Akodo area of Ibeju Lekki in Lagos State.

The accused persons and others at large were allegedly responsible for the death of Wale Kalejaiye, who led some policemen to the Akodo community in the Ibeju Lekki area of the state, on February 1, this year, when

they went to make some arrests.

The five persons, namely: Bariu Oluwo, Ayo Ogunloja, Segun Binkanose, Tajudeen Agbaje and Mutaifu Ogunlaja, were arrested in connection with the incident and were granted administrative bail, following the nationwide strike embarked upon by judicial workers at the time.

The prosecution of the accused persons commenced yesterday, before Justice Modupe Nicole-Clay of the Lagos High Court, at the

Tafawa Balewa Square, Lagos Island.

The accused persons were also allegedly responsible for the bodily harm suffered by members of the IGP Monitoring Unit team, led by a Superintendent of Police, during the attack.

The 32-year-old was abducted from the policemen on the day of the incident before his bloated body was recovered at a beach in the area, some days later.

Policemen who were injured in the attack on the IG monitoring unit team in the Lagos community have been identified as Super-

intendent of Police Justine Adaka, ASP Akinola, Police Inspectors Anu Akinola, Bashir Omeka, Arowolo Benjamin and Sergeant Ajeh Benjamin.

Police prosecutor, Moruf Animashaun, informed the court that he had directed the Police Investigating Police Officer (IPO) to personally serve the defendants with the court process.

He, however, could not confirm to the court whether the accused persons had been served with the process, prompting the presiding judge to adjourn the matter to January 31, 2022.

## Protest rocks Ibadan over non-allocation of